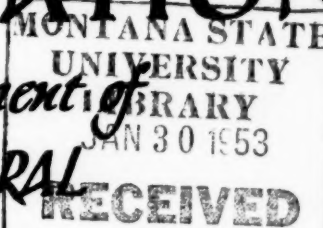


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"AUSTRIA IS ENTITLED TO SPECIAL TREATMENT AT THE U.N." SAYS CHANCELLOR FIGL. "Austria is entitled to special treatment at the United Nations," Chancellor Leopold Figl told a meeting of the Vienna Provincial Farm Council. He said that Austria had shown in the Yugoslav question that she was prepared to travel the road of peace and friendship. In the question of the State Treaty, Dr. Figl added, she was likewise prepared to travel the same road providing it would not be at the expense of the Austrian people. Austria had appealed to the United Nations, he continued, so that the world might learn of the injustice being perpetrated against Austria — a country which in its thousand years of existence had given mankind evidence of the high state of its culture, science and humanism. Located at the fringe of the Iron Curtain, Austria had a great mission to fulfill, for on her freedom or bondage depended the freedom or bondage of the entire free world of today. In the coming elections, the Chancellor concluded, the people of Austria would prove that they were conscious of their mission to preserve their liberty and thereby uphold human rights and human dignity for the entire free world.

U.N. POLITICAL COMMITTEE RESCHEDULES AUSTRIAN QUESTION FOR EARLIER DISCUSSION. At its meeting of December 13, 1952, the Political Committee of the United Nations voted to move up the debate on the Austrian question from 6th to 4th place on the agenda. This change in the agenda which is contrary to custom, inasmuch as the previous decision with regard to the scheduling of the Austrian question had already been adopted, means that the Austrian problem will come up for debate immediately after the Moroccan question. The motion for the change was introduced by the delegate from Peru who described Austria as a noble and famous country which for seven years had been making every effort to establish full democracy. The only opposition to the motion came from the Soviet delegate, who adduced the well-known argument that the United Nations were not competent to discuss the issue. The result of the

U.N. SHOULD KEEP CONSTANT WATCH ON DEVELOPMENTS IN AUSTRIA, DR. GRUBER TELLS SENATOR LODGE. The Voice of America recently reported in one of its commentaries that Austrian Foreign Minister Gruber asked Senator Lodge, Chief U.S. Delegate designate to the United Nations, "to use his influence in the United Nations to the end that the U.N. keep a constant watch on developments in Austria." Dr. Gruber said that the world organization should continue to devote its attention to Austria even after the Austrian appeal now on the agenda has been settled. The Voice of America commentary further revealed that John Foster Dulles, U.S. Secretary of State designate, had assured Dr. Gruber that he would do everything he could to safeguard Austria's freedom and independence.

vote on the motion was 37 for, 5 against (the Soviet Bloc) and 13 abstentions. Among the countries which abstained were the Arab-Asian states because they feared that the discussion of the Moroccan question might thereby be adversely influenced. But their vote should not be taken to reflect a position unfriendly to Austria's aspirations, as members of the Arab bloc were quick to assure Austrian diplomatic representatives. In fact, the vote appeared to indicate a political climate favorable to Austria, which is all the more important in view of the complicated atmosphere created by the Tunisian and Moroccan questions.

DR. GRUBER HOLDS IMPORTANT TALKS IN NEW YORK.

After his return from Washington, D.C., on December 6, Austrian Foreign Minister Gruber continued his discussions preliminary to the consideration of the Austrian Treaty question by the General Assembly of the United Nations. Among the officials and foreign representatives with whom he held talks were Mr. Lester Pearson, Canadian Secretary for External Affairs and President of the current General Assembly of the United Nations; Mrs. Vijaya Lakshmi Pandit, Chairman of the Indian delegation; Dr. Mohamed Fadil Al-Jamali, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Iraq and Chairman of the Iraqi delegation; M. Pierre Schneider, member of the French Parliament and Alternate Representative to the United Nations; Mr. Veljko Vlahovic, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of Yugoslavia and Chairman of the Yugoslav delegation; Consul General Dr. Hans E. Riesser, Permanent German Observer at the United Nations; Ambassador Abba Eban of Israel, the Permanent Representative of his Government to the United Nations; and Senators Theodore F. Green and Alexander Wiley, the U.S. representatives to the United Nations.

The editors of the Austrian Information bulletin
take pleasure in extending to all readers their
Very Best Wishes for a Merry Christmas
and a
Happy New Year.

On December 9 Dr. Gruber attended a luncheon with Ambassador Benjamin V. Cohen of the U.S. Permanent Mission to the U.N.; Mr. Homer M. Byington, Jr., Director of the Office of Western Affairs at the State Department; Mr. Alois Vollgruber, Undersecretary of the Austrian Foreign Office and Consul General Dr. Franz Matsch, the Austrian Observer at the United Nations.

On December 10 the Austrian Foreign Minister was the luncheon guest of Sir Gladwyn Jebb, the Permanent Representative of Great Britain at the United Nations. On the following day, Dr. Gruber gave a luncheon reception in honor of the cosponsors of the Brazilian motion with regard to Austria which was attended by Ambassador Joao Carlos Muniz, Brazil's Permanent Representative to the United Nations and Vice Chairman of the Brazilian delegation; Ambassador D.J. von Balluseck, Permanent Representative of the Netherlands at the United Nations and Chairman of the Netherlands delegation; Dr. Luis Quintanilla, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the Organization of the American States; Ambassador Jose Gorostiza of the Mexican delegation; and Mr. Fuad Ammoun, Undersecretary of the Lebanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Chairman of the delegation from Lebanon. Ambassador Fernand van Langenhove, the Permanent Belgian Representative to the United Nations and Ambassador Alexis Kyrrou, the Permanent Representative of Greece, were also present, although their countries are not cosponsors of the Brazilian motion.

In addition to these talks with representatives to the United Nations, Foreign Minister Gruber also had occasion to see a number of leading figures in American public life. He had talks with Mr. Paul G. Hoffman, Director of the Ford Foundation, Mr. John D. Rockefeller 3rd, Chairman of the Rockefeller Foundation, and others. On December 11 he attended a dinner given in his honor by Mr. George A. Sloan, President of the United States Council of the International Chamber of Commerce. After this reception he accepted an invitation from Rudolf Bing, the Director of the Metropolitan Opera, to see a performance of Carmen. His busy evening closed with an after-dinner reception given by the Italian Ambassador Guidotti, the Italian Observer to the United Nations.

On December 12 Dr. Gruber was the guest of Governor Thomas E. Dewey at a private luncheon at the Hotel Roosevelt. In the afternoon he attended a press discussion arranged in his honor by the Overseas Press Club in the apartment of Mrs. B. Mathieu, the Club's Vice President. In the evening of that day Dr. Gruber attended festivities organized in his honor in Yorkville by a group of Austrian societies in the United States.

The following day, December 13, Foreign Minister Gruber was the luncheon guest of Cardinal Spellman. On December 16, he was invited to lunch by Mrs. Ogden Reid, President of the New York Herald Tribune, and on the following day by Mr. Arthur Hays Sulzberger, the publisher of The New York Times.

On Monday, December 8, Dr. Karl Gruber addressed a dinner meeting given in his honor by the Council on Foreign Relations on the topic, "Current Austrian Problems."

800 DELEGATES FROM 50 COUNTRIES TO ATTEND I.C.C. CONGRESS IN VIENNA NEXT MAY. On December 8, the members of the Austrian National Committee of the International Chamber of Commerce met in assembly in the grand hall of the Federal Chamber of Trade and Industry in Vienna. The meeting adopted the proposal that the 14th Congress of the International Chamber of Commerce be held in the Austrian capital in May 1953. I.C.C. General Secretary Vasseur said that the entire free world, by selecting Vienna as the site of the next congress, had thereby expressed its solidarity with the Austrian people.

It was emphasized at the meeting that the selection of Vienna as the locale of the congress not only reflected recognition of the work done by the Austrian National Committee but also represented a vote of confidence in the efficiency of the various chambers. Moreover, it was evidence of the appreciation of Vienna's well-known hospitality. More than 800 delegates from fifty countries are expected to come to Vienna next May. The last congress of the I.C.C. in Vienna took place exactly twenty years ago.

During the meeting Dr. Korinek, the General Secretary of the Austrian National Committee, presented a comprehensive report of the committee's activities. International economic developments were reflected in the work of the I.C.C., he said.

Secretary Vasseur stated that the congress would bring Austria moral and material advantages, adding that these gatherings of the I.C.C. were not political conferences and that no such conferences were planned.

INTERNATIONAL POWER POOL TO SURVEY ALPINE WATER-POWER RESOURCES. As reported in the preceding issue (Vol. V, No. 23 of December 5, 1952) of the *Austrian INFORMATION BULLETIN*, a protocol was signed in Innsbruck early in December for the establishment of an International Power-Pool Survey Council by representatives of Austria, Germany, France and Italy. The council will study the water-power resources of the Alps and attempt to coordinate existing and proposed hydroelectric power projects in Austria with those in the other countries involved.

The organization includes the following three working committees: a group of hydrologists who will survey and determine the technical and hydroelectric engineering possibilities, a group of hydroelectric power economists who will study the distribution possibilities, and a group of legal and financial experts. The council came into being particularly as a result of the initiative of Dr. Rudolf Stahl, the director of the All-Austrian Power Network.

The present membership of the new international organization includes the following public utilities: the Electricité de France, the Italian SENEL Company and the SADE of Venice, the Edison Company of Milan, the SIT Company of Piedmont, and the German Power Network with three major plants.

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300,000 TO 400,000 YOUNG PEOPLE TO SWELL RANKS OF ELIGIBLE VOTERS IN COMING ELECTION.

In a report to a national rally of the Socialist Youth Movement, Austrian Vice Chancellor Adolf Schaerf said that 300,000 to 400,000 young people would reach voting age in the forthcoming Parliamentary elections and go to the polls for the first time in their lives. He added that several hundred thousand Austrian citizens had not yet reached a political decision and were not yet politically committed to any party. Many of these open-minded people had embarked upon a business or professional career under favorable conditions, and what they wanted above all was the assurance of being able to make a living and establish a family.

SENATOR CONNALLY SAYS AUSTRIA DESERVES THE ADMIRATION AND AID OF THE ENTIRE FREE WORLD.

In a report on his two-month visit to Europe, which included a few days in Austria, Senator Tom Connally, D. Texas, Chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, said that "the Austrian people deserve the admiration and aid of the entire free world in recognition of the great courage they have shown in resisting Russian demands."

The senator reported that Austria had made significant economic strides in spite of the tremendous difficulties resulting from the Soviet occupation. Austria's paramount political problem was the State Treaty. Sen. Connally said that the Western Allies and the Russians apparently held completely opposite views on this question.

AUSTRIA BREAKS OFF TRADE TALKS WITH POLAND.

In view of the ever greater difficulties encountered by Austria in the course of trade negotiations with the countries of Eastern Europe, the Government has decided to break off its current talks with Poland.

The "Arbeiter-Zeitung" reports that the Austrian delegation came to Warsaw with the best of intentions and with truly acceptable proposals for a new trade agreement with Poland. These included the lowering of the quota of hard currency payments for coal, in return for larger deliveries of Austrian finished goods; and a reasonable decrease in coal prices, such as Poland recently granted the Scandinavian countries, in exchange for which the Austrian negotiators assured Poland of nitrogenous fertilizer deliveries at prices 20% lower than those currently charged.

But the Polish trade officials continued to insist that further coal deliveries to Austria could be made only in exchange for Austrian ball bearings of certain specified dimensions, which happen to coincide precisely with those that are used in the production of tanks. The Austrian trade experts thereupon informed the Poles that Austria was not in a position to supply the required size of bearings wanted.

TURKISH ENVOY PRESENTS CREDENTIALS TO AUSTRIAN PRESIDENT.

Seyfullah Esin, the newly-appointed Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of Turkey presented his credentials to President Koerner of Austria at the end of November.

BRAZILIAN MINISTER TO VIENNA ELEVATED TO RANK OF AMBASSADOR.

The President of the United States of Brazil recently raised the Brazilian Legation in Vienna to the rank of an Embassy. Thus, Italy, Argentina and Brazil have now joined the United States of America, Great Britain and France in giving the rank of ambassador to their accredited diplomatic representatives in the Austrian capital.

AUSTRIAN CHARGE D'AFFAIRES IN AUSTRALIA PRESENTS CREDENTIALS.

Dr. Otto Eiselsberg, the Austrian Chargé d'Affaires in Australia, presented his credentials to Foreign Minister Richard G. Casey of Australia in Canberra on December 3.

VENEZUELAN ENVOY PRESENTS CREDENTIALS TO PRESIDENT KOERNER OF AUSTRIA.

Early in December President Theodor Koerner received Dr. Hugo Rojas Moncada, the newly appointed Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States of Venezuela, who presented his credentials to the Austrian Chief of State. Chancellor Figl later joined the conversations.

EIGHT PARTIES ENTER AUSTRIAN NATIONAL ELECTIONS.

"Eight parties will campaign in the Parliamentary elections to be held on February 22, 1953," Austrian Minister of the Interior Oscar Helmer announced in the course of a campaign speech he delivered at a political rally in Lower Austria at the end of November.

He further stated that the Austrian Socialist and People's parties would campaign under their present names. The campaign name of the League of Independents ("Verband der Unabhaengigen") has not yet been established, no final agreement having yet been reached between the League and the Movement for Political Regeneration on the proposed coalition ticket of "Social Regeneration Movement" on which these two parties have tentatively agreed to campaign. The splinter faction which broke away from the People's Party and which Deputy Aichhorn will present to the electorate under the name, "Free Democrats," hopes to find voter support in trade and industry. After his expulsion from the League of Independents, Deputy Huemer will now enter the campaign at the head of a new group which calls itself the "National Republicans of Upper Austria." This group is expected to be joined by a splinter party organized by former Sudeten German Deputy Wagner. Two other political movements which Minister Helmer said had just sprung up are the "Middle-of-the-Road Ticket" (Wahlgruppe der Mitte) and the "National Bloc." Lead by Prof. Dobretsberger, a group of Communist activities, former National socialists and other disaffected elements have banded together under the name, "Austrian People's Opposition," which is believed to be a screen behind which agents of a foreign power hope to influence the electorate, Minister Helmer said.

PEOPLE'S PARTY CHAIRMAN RAAB SAYS HIS PARTY TO DISCONTINUE PRESENT DOMESTIC POLICY COURSE.

"The policy heretofore pursued in domestic affairs is once

and for all at an end," National Chairman Julius Raab of the Austrian People's Party assured a conference of officials of the Austrian "Wirtschaftsbund" (the industrial and trade association affiliated with the People's Party -Ed.) in Salzburg at the end of November.

Chairman Raab expanded his statement as follows: "With the recent resignation of the Federal Government and the formation of a caretaker cabinet the course heretofore followed is at an end, and a coalition (i.e. between the People's and Socialist parties -Ed.) after the elections (to be held on February 22, 1953 -Ed.) will only be possible under certain, very specific, conditions. Any coalition agreement would especially have to take into consideration the possibility of reaching Parliamentary decisions with the help of the opposition in the event of disagreement among the major parties. The People's Party will no longer allow itself to be welded to the coalition chain and thus make majority decisions in Parliament impossible."

TRADE-UNION FEDERATION PRESIDENT BOEHM SAYS PRODUCTIVITY HAS NOT KEPT PACE WITH INCREASED PRODUCTION. President Boehm of the Austrian Federation of Trade Unions recently told an information conference of the Tyrolean trade unions in Innsbruck that "no nation on earth can for long consume more goods than it produces." He further said that certain people were wondering where the benefits of the 130% production increase over 1937 went. The answer is, President Boehm stated, that although the volume of production has increased, productivity has not. The major reasons for this were insufficient modernization of plant facilities and too high trade margins.

CIVIL SERVICE EMPLOYEES DEMAND SALARY ADJUSTMENTS. The following demands were voiced and decisions adopted at the recent extraordinary conference of the Civil Servants Union in Vienna:

1. The earliest possible adoption of legislation permitting a more extensive break-down of civil service job classifications.
2. Such job differentiation to be based on the provisions of the Salary Adjustment Law and on the cost-of-living bonus presently in force.
3. In view of the financial position of the state, these adjustments can be made in stages, as has been the case in the execution of the Pension Adjustment Law.
4. A substantial raise to be granted in the first stage, to go into effect before July 1, 1953.
5. The executive committee of the union is instructed to begin negotiations at once with all appropriate authorities in view of realizing these goals.

The conference also decided to convene again after the new administration takes office in order to review the situation and, if need be, adopt further measures.

VIENNA COMBATS WINTER UNEMPLOYMENT. The Provincial Commission of Vienna met early in December to discuss measures for alleviating the present conditions of win-

ter unemployment. The Austrian Ministry of Social Welfare is doing everything it can to counteract the fluctuating employment situation throughout the country. The commission called upon private industry to help combat winter unemployment by a more rational scheduling of construction jobs. In fact, the City of Vienna is planning its construction program in such a way as to offset the seasonal fluctuations in the employment level.

ALL-AUSTRIAN MUNICIPAL CONFERENCE HELD IN VIENNA. At the end of November, the Ninth all-Austrian Municipal Conference was held at Vienna's Town Hall under the central theme of "The Big City and the Small Community." More than 300 delegates from the country's nine provinces attended, as did many members of the Federal Government, the Mayor of Vienna and a number of Parliamentary deputies. The conference tackled the problem of a balanced municipal budget in 1953 and discussed the financial position of smaller municipalities. Amendments of the statutes of the Austrian Municipal Association ("Staetebundes") were also drawn up.

"S.O.S. SOCIETY" DISTRIBUTED FOUR MILLION SCHILLINGS TO THE NEEDY. In 1952 the "S.O.S. Society for Emergency Relief" distributed close to four million schillings in cash and goods to needy individuals throughout Austria.

The Society was founded in 1949 by a Jesuit preacher, Father Lombardi. Its balance sheet for the 1951-52 fiscal year shows total grants of 3,716,370 schillings to some 22,000 needy individuals and their families. Cash contributions amounted to 1,341,810 schillings and clothes valued at 1,846,800 schillings were given to 6,156 persons. The society also distributed furniture, as well as 16 wheel chairs and 23 major therapeutic aids for the aged and ailing. Moreover, free medical care and legal aid have also been made available. The S.O.S. Society derives its funds exclusively from contributions. Administratively, it is part of the Catholic Caritas organization.

CATHOLIC CHURCH PLAYS ACTIVE ROLE IN PROMOTING PEACE, SAYS DR. JACHYM. In a speech entitled "Social and Political Peace," which he delivered in Vienna in the course of the Caritas Cycle, Archbishop-Coadjutor Jachym said that law and justice were not only the result of majority decisions in Parliament, nor does law always spring from the people or even from an absolute authority. Independent of these, there is the principle of divine law. For religious reasons, the Church has always condemned the various systems of Marxist Socialism, but it cannot close its eyes to the fact that in their efforts to improve their lot the workers were opposing a force which is contrary to divine law. He insisted that today a clear insight of the real foundations underlying every human facet of social co-existence was of greater importance than ever. Chaos can be overcome only by a genuine peace order, Dr. Jachym said.

29,000 VIENNESE CHILDREN GIVEN SUBSIDIZED VACATIONS. It was recently announced that the "Jugendhilfs-werk" (Children's Aid Society) of Vienna, in cooperation

with the leading welfare organizations in the Austrian capital, was able to send 29,000 Viennese children to Austrian vacation centers in 1952. Last year 25,000 children had received such vacation benefits. The Society contributed 1,180,000 schillings toward the maintenance of the children while they were on vacation. In 1952, the total number of per capita maintenance days amounted to 691,989. Thanks to the conscientious professional care of welfare personnel, doctors, educators and kindergarten teachers not a single child had an accident or contracted a serious illness.

AUSTRIAN FOREIGN EXCHANGE HOLDINGS QUADRUPLED. A recent weekly report of the Austrian National Bank revealed that as of November 15, 1952, Austria's foreign-exchange holdings amounted to 1,833,000,000 schillings. On November 15, 1951, the country's balance of foreign exchange had totalled only 436,000,000 schillings. Thanks to the government's firm stabilization policy, Austria's foreign-exchange holdings have thus more than quadrupled in the course of the past year.

AUSTRIA'S EXPORTS OF ELECTRIC POWER SECOND HIGHEST IN EUROPE. It was recently announced that in 1950 Austria exported 685,000,000 KWH of hydroelectric power, chiefly to Germany. In comparison, Switzerland exported 945,000,000 KWH to Germany, France and Italy. Sweden exported 175,000,000 KWH to Denmark, and Italy 145,000,000 KWH to Switzerland and France. In addition to these exports of hydroelectric power, the countries involved also exported about one billion kilowatt-hours of thermoelectric power, thus bringing the amount of all electric power exported to a total of 3.3 billion KWH.

As the second largest supplier of power, Western Austria occupies a leading position in the electric-power industry of Europe, although only 17% of Austria's water-power resources are now being exploited.

FOREIGN BUSINESS REPORTERS AND EDITORS VISIT AUSTRIA. An international delegation of business reporters and editors from Belgium, Denmark, Germany, England, the Netherlands, Italy, Norway, Sweden and Switzerland visited Austria at the end of November and the beginning of December on an information-gathering tour. The newspapermen were shown major plants of the wood, aluminum, iron-and-steel, paper and textile industries, as well as the Inn power stations near Braunau and the custom jewellery cooperative in Enns. In Vienna, the members of the delegation met with leading representatives of Austrian industry and had a conference with Dr. Taucher, head of the Austrian ERP Agency.

EXHIBIT OF AUSTRIAN EXPORT GOODS TO BE HELD IN ZURICH. An exhibition of Austrian industrial and arts-and-crafts export products will be held in Zurich from January 1 to November 30, 1953, under the joint sponsorship of the Austrian Ministry of Trade, the Chamber of Commerce and the Institute for Export Promotion. During the course of the exhibition, which has been authorized by the Austrian National Bank the displays will be completely changed four times.

CONSTRUCTION OF JOCHENSTEIN POWER STATION BEGUN. The Board of Directors of the Danube Power Station of Jochenstein recently let contracts for a total value of 1,300,000,000 schillings in connection with construction work on the new power plant. Contracts for half of this sum were awarded to Austrian firms with construction work scheduled to begin at once.

AUSTRIAN FILMS A SOURCE OF FOREIGN EXCHANGE. It was recently announced that between 1946 and 1951 one hundred and five Austrian motion pictures have been exported to Germany, 52 to Switzerland, 46 to Luxemburg, 33 to Belgium, 29 to the Netherlands, 5 to Turkey and 3 to Japan. In 1951, Austria imported 98 films from Germany and 184 from the United States. Last year Austrian films in Germany earned 4.1 million German marks more in box-office receipts than did German films in Austria. The proceeds from the showing of Austrian motion pictures in Germany have served to strengthen the financial position of Austria's film industry and to finance such imports as porcelain, farm machinery and Solingen steel products.

AUSTRIAN EARNINGS FROM TOURISM COVER 50% OF TRADE DEFICIT. Deputy Fink of the Austrian Parliament recently announced that in 1952 Austria will have earned close to one billion schillings from the tourist trade, an amount sufficient to cover 50% of her balance-of-trade deficit.

He said that the shift in tourist trade will be influenced by future investment policies designed to promote social or group tourism as well as domestic travel, to expand small tourist establishments, to reactivate former tourist centers, especially in Eastern Austria, and to open up new tourist areas. Domestic tourism remains the pillar of the tourist trade, he said. Of 12,000,000 overnight accommodations, 7,000,000 were reserved by Austrians and 55% of these came from Vienna.

VIENNA HAS SUCCESSFUL SUMMER TOURIST SEASON IN 1952. Between May and the end of October of this year, 180,000 tourists visited Vienna, 76,000 of them from abroad, the total number of overnight accommodations amounting to 534,000. The Austrian capital now has 361 hotels, inns and boarding houses with an aggregate of 8200 beds. Most of the foreign tourists were from Italy (15,459), the United States (10,702), Switzerland (7,891) and France (6,355). Over 5,000 tourists came from England and a like number from Sweden. In addition, there were visitors from Germany, Belgium and Luxemburg, the Netherlands, Denmark, Yugoslavia and Greece. The number of tourists from Bulgaria, Spain, Rumania, China, Japan and Russia amounted to less than one hundred persons from any of these countries. More visitors came from such distant lands as India, Canada and South Africa than from the neighboring countries of Hungary and Czechoslovakia.

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27-MILE-LONG CABLEWAY COMPLETED IN TAUERN NATIONAL PARK. A 27-mile-long cableway, one of the fastest and most modern of its kind in Europe, has just been completed in the heart of the scenic Tauern National Park area. In a mere twenty minutes, tourists can now travel from the Enzing station in the Stubach Valley to an altitude of more than 7,500 feet, from where a breath-taking panorama of almost all the peaks of the Tauern range unfolds before their eyes. The winter timetable of the Stubach Cable Railroad includes five regularly-scheduled trips daily on weekdays and seven on Sundays and holidays. A modern hotel will be erected near the mountain station from where the traveller is treated to a bird's-eye view of the Weissmoos, Gruenmoos and Tauernmoos lakes regions.

PREPARATIONS FOR ARLBERG-KANDAHAR RACE COMPLETED. It was recently announced that all technical preparations have been completed for the 1953 Arlberg-Kandahar Race which, for the first time in its 25-year existence, will again be held at its original site in St. Anton-Arlberg. Both the new women's course and the improvements of the men's course were finished before the first snowfalls and are now ready for the opening of the winter season.

NEW MOTOR SLEDGE BUILT IN AUSTRIA. A very maneuverable motor-driven sledge was recently designed in Austria for mountain use. Its drive mechanism operates several ski-like sledge runners, equipped with anti-backsliding devices, which describe a sort of striding course. This motor sledge promises to be of great value as a tractor for motor vehicles on slippery mountain roads.

LATEST FIGURES REFLECT INCREASE IN DANUBE SHIPPING AND AIR TRANSPORTATION. The Austrian Federal Department of Communications recently published statistics which reflect increased activity in Danube shipping and civil air transportation in Austria.

Ever since the Vienna-Linz section of the river was opened to commercial traffic, shipping on the Danube has shown a marked upward trend. In October 1952, downstream traffic amounted to 155,693 tons and upstream traffic to 64,170 tons, as compared to 120,662 and 31,821 tons, respectively, for the same month last year.

Air traffic showed an increase in passenger volume but a drop in air freight. Whereas in 1951 the total number of air passages booked, both incoming and outgoing, was 37,691, by the middle of 1952 alone the number had already reached 21,042. Last year's air-freight volume totaled 344,151 kg. (1 kg. - 2.2 lbs.) in incoming shipments and 681,627 kgs. in outgoing shipments, as compared to only 115,044 kg. and 99,291 kg., respectively, for the first six months of 1952.

PRICE OF PAPER INCREASED 7% IN AUSTRIA. In mid-November the price of art paper, wrapping paper, light-weight paper and special paper was raised 7% although the paper industry had requested a price increase of 13%. The prices demanded by the paper industry were found to be acceptable to the various paper consumer groups after the industry agreed to grant an interim discount of 4% on the new prices.

CULTURE AND SCIENCE

APPEAL FOR AID BY AMERICAN FRIENDS OF AUSTRIAN CHILDREN, INC.

As in the past the American Friends of Austrian Children, Inc., which was founded in 1948 as a non-profit and non-sectarian relief organization and whose Honorary Chairman is the former Austrian Ambassador to the United States, Dr. Ludwig Kleinwaechter, is again appealing for contributions to make this a truly happy Christmas for the needy children of Austria. This organization is registered with the Advisory Committee on Voluntary Foreign Aid of the United States Government in Washington and contributions are tax-deductible.

During the short time of its existence the organization has been able to send to Austria for distribution amongst the needy children of Vienna and the Provinces a number of substantial shipments of clothing, food, toys and books, including a carload of sugar, 34,000 lbs. of butter, 40,000 lbs. of dried milk, 62,000 lbs. of egg powder and 2,300 pairs of shoes, as well as to arrange for the translation into German and publication in Vienna of an American book for children.

It is one of the aims of the organization to foster friendly relations between the children of the United States and the children of Austria.

PROF. HANZL HERE TO DISCUSS 1953-54 TOUR OF VIENNA PHILHARMONIC. The Chairman of the Vienna Philharmonic Society, Prof. Rudolf Hanzl, flew to New York early in December for talks with leading personalities in American music circles. The conversations dealt with a possible large-scale guest tour of the Vienna Philharmonic through the United States during the 1953-54 concert season.

AUSTRIAN FILM "APRIL 1, 2000" PERMITTED IN SOVIET ZONE. Early in December the Soviet Information Center informed the distributor of the Austrian film, "April 1, 2000," who will handle the film in the Russian zone of occupation that there were no objections to the picture being shown in the Soviet-occupied districts of Vienna, in Lower Austria, in the Muehlviertel and in the Burgenland.

"APRIL 1, 2000" WELL REVIEWED IN GERMANY. The "Frankfurter Nachtausgabe" recently published the following review of the Austrian film, "April 1, 2000": "This film is probably the cleverest - because the most unimpassioned - movie which any country has made since the recent world war. It is characterized by a degree of generosity such as probably only the Austrians are capable of. Never before has the character of Austrian thought, feeling and perception or the workings of Austria's experience throughout the centuries been more typically and strikingly translated to the screen. The trick settings and ideas here presented by the art and technique of cinematography in the service of truth and justice are truly grandiose."

WORLD CONGRESS OF MUSIC TEACHERS TO BE HELD IN AUSTRIA NEXT YEAR.

An international congress of music teachers will be held in Bad Aussee and Salzburg, Austria, from July 15 to 23, 1953. The agenda of the congress is to include a discussion of the teaching of music to aspiring professional artists, a review of organizational problems and of the mutual recognition of music degrees, and consideration of various pedagogical questions. In addition to the many music teachers and directors of leading European music academies who are expected to attend, the presidents of three prominent music schools in the United States have announced that they will participate in the congress.

SALZBURG FESTIVAL PROGRAM FOR 1953 ANNOUNCED.

The managing committee of the Salzburg Festivals recently announced that the 1953 program will include the following performances:

Mozart's "Don Giovanni," to be presented on five evenings in the Rocky Riding School arena; "Cosi fan Tutte," to be presented on five evenings in the Residenzhof; and the "Marriage of Figaro," to be presented on four evenings in the Festspielhaus. Strauss' "Rosenkavalier" and Gottfried Einem's "Prozess" (Trial) will be given on six and four evenings, respectively, at the Festspielhaus.

As far as the stage plays are concerned, there will be seven performances of Hugo von Hoffmannsthal's "Everyman" in the Cathedral Square, and, as a new addition to the festival repertory, Shakespeare's "Julius Caesar," to be given five times at the Rocky Riding School.

The strictly musical part of the program includes seven orchestral concerts by the Vienna Philharmonic, two recitals, five concerts of chamber music, four matinees, four Mozart serenades and six Cathedral concerts. Conductors Karl Boehm, Guido Cantelli, Wilhelm Furtwaengler, Clemens Krauss and Bruno Walter, and producers Herbert Graf, Ernst Lothar and Oscar Fritz Schuh have so far been engaged.

WALDMUELLER EXHIBITION DURING 1953 SALZBURG FESTIVAL.

The most comprehensive exhibition ever organized of the works of Ferdinand Waldmueller (1793-1865), possibly the most representative painter of the Austrian "Biedermeier" period (between the end of the Napoleonic Wars and the Revolution of 1848 - Ed.), will be held at the Residenz during the 1953 festival. Some three hundred works by Waldmueller from Austrian, German and Swiss collections are to be exhibited.

MOZARTEUM CHOIR SCORES GREAT SUCCESS IN SWITZERLAND AND ITALY.

The "Camerata Academica" choir of the Salzburg Mozarteum, under the direction of Bernhard Paumgartner, achieved an outstanding success with both the critics and the public during its recent tour of Switzerland and Italy. Concerts of works by 18th century composers, such as Mozart, Bach and Caix d'Hevelois, were presented at Zurich, Basel, Bern, Lausanne and Geneva in Switzerland, and at Naples (Teatro San Carlo), Pisa and Florence in Italy. The "Camerata Academica" ensemble has since received other invitations to give concerts abroad.

CHAMBER CHOIR OF VIENNA ACADEMY OF MUSIC TO TOUR SOUTHERN EUROPE AND NORTH AMERICA.

The chamber choir of the Vienna Academy of Music and Dramatic Art will tour Italy, Greece, France and North America next year, according to a recent announcement from Vienna. Under the direction of Ferdinand Grossmann, the twelve male and twelve female singers, all of whom are students at the academy, will begin their extended foreign engagement by giving twenty concerts in Italy next March. They will participate in the Haydn Festival concerts together with the Scarlatti Orchestra in Naples, L'Aquila and Milan. Other concerts are scheduled to be given in Sicily, Rome, Perugia and Florence. The Italian tour is to be followed by five concerts in Greece.

At the end of May, the "Akademiekammerchor" will sing in Paris, where one of the performances is scheduled to take place at the Theatre des Champs Elysees. The group will then take part in the Royaumont Abbey music festival, as they did last year, when this Viennese choir was awarded the "Grand Prix du Disque" in Paris for its performance of Bach's great Mass in B-Minor. On their way to and from Paris, the singers will appear in a number of radio concerts in Switzerland and Western Germany. Finally, in the fall of 1953, the ensemble will tour the United States and Canada where forty concerts are scheduled.

REVIVALS AT THE VIENNA STATE OPERA.

At the end of November the Vienna State Opera presented a revival of Hans Pfitzner's "Christelflein," while its branch theater, the Volksoper, prepared a revival of Carl Millöcker's operetta "Der arme Jonathan" for presentation early in December. "Christelflein" was produced by Josef Witt, with Vilma Lipp, Anny Felbermayer, Ludwig Weber and Herbert Alsen in the leading roles.

The title role of "Der arme Jonathan" was sung by Karl Doench, with Dorothea Siebert, Elfie Mayerhofer and Fred Liewehr portraying the other major parts. The production was prepared by Peter Stanchina of the Salzburg Landestheater with Anton Paulik as conductor. Other revivals by the Vienna State Opera were Puccini's "La Bohème," with Sena Jurinac as Mimi and Karl Terkal as Rodolfo and, at the Volksoper, the opera "Fanciulla," with Ljuba Welitsch as Minnie and Josef Gostic as Ramerez.

BERNHARD PAUMGARTNER CELEBRATES 65TH BIRTHDAY.

Bernhard Paumgartner, the internationally known Mozart scholar and head of the Salzburg Mozarteum, celebrated his 65th birthday at the end of November.

Dr. Paumgartner was born in Vienna in 1887. Since 1917 he has been the head of the famous Mozarteum music academy in Salzburg, and has conducted its orchestra in numerous concerts throughout Europe. In 1945 he played a leading part in reviving the Salzburg Festivals and in reopening the Mozarteum. He has composed the music for a number of plays and operas, of which "Das heisse Eisen" was first performed in Salzburg in 1923, "Die Hoehle von Salamanca" (based on a play by Cervantes) in Dresden and Vienna in 1923, and "Der Rossini in Neapel" in Zurich in 1935.

PROF. BRUNNER, PIONEER IN CITY PLANNING, IS 65.

Professor Karl Brunner, the Viennese architect who is a member of the "Kuenstlerhaus" Art Association and a pioneer in modern city planning, recently turned 65. As an authority in urban architectural planning, he coined the terms "Baupolitik" (building policy) and "Soziales Wohnen" (social housing).

In 1929 Prof. Brunner was invited to teach at the University of Santiago de Chile, where he was also appointed head of the city building office. In 1933, he was called to Bogota, Colombia, and taught at the university there. He remained in Latin America until 1948, working on a number of city planning projects mainly in Colombia and Chile, but also in Panama, Peru, Cuba and Uruguay. Since 1948, Prof. Brunner has been in charge of Vienna's municipal city planning program.

EXHIBITION OF "INEXPENSIVE" BOOKS OPENS IN VIENNA.

In view of the fact that present cost-of-living conditions in Austria are such that the buying of books is beyond the reach of many people — although the price of books has gone up only 50% since before the war, as compared to a general price increase of about 600% — the Wolfrum Art-Book Publishing Company has organized a special exhibition called "The Inexpensive Book." The exhibition includes books from Austrian, British, American, German, Swiss and Italian publishers which cost between eight and seventeen schillings (about thirty to seventy cents).

"TULIPE D'OR" PRIZE WON BY AUSTRIAN ORGANIST.

Anton Heiller, a professor of organ music at the Vienna Academy of Music and Dramatic Art, was awarded the "Tulipe d'or" (first) prize at the international competition for organ improvisations recently held at Haarland, the Netherlands. Mr. Heiler represented Austria.

KASIMIR ETCHINGS EXHIBITED IN KLAGENFURT. Two hundred works by the noted Austrian graphic artist, Luigi Kasimir, were recently exhibited in Klagenfurt, Carinthia. The exhibition, which featured mainly color etchings, was a resounding success. Kasimir, who was born in 1881 in Styria, has travelled extensively and has incorporated in his work many architectural themes from all parts of the world.

LARGEST POST-WAR CHURCH STRUCTURE COMPLETED IN VIENNA. The Immaculata Parish Church of Neumargareten near Vienna was recently consecrated by Cardinal Innitzer, Archbishop of Vienna. The new church, which will accommodate 2500 persons, is the largest house of worship built within the Archdiocese of Vienna since World War II.

The church which had formerly stood on the site where work on the new structure began two years ago was completely destroyed in February 1945. The ceiling of the new church is decorated with a fresco by the painter Hans Alexander Brunner, entitled "Die ewige Glorie". The altar has been erected at the point where the longitudinal and transverse axes intersect. The architects were Helene Koller-Buchwieser and Hans Steineder.

AUSTRIAN INFORMATION

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